Harvard College
Library

FROM THE BEQUEST OF

JOHN HARVEY TREAT

OF LAWRENCE, MASS.

CLASS OF 1862

ARTICLES OF ENQUIRY

Given by the Right Reverend Father in God James Lord Bishop of Worc.

(Fleetwood)

and delivered to the Church-Wardens, and Side-men, to be considered and answered in his Visitation, holden in the Year of our Lord God, 1680.

London, Printed.

see a different copy of Articles used by Ld. Lich at his visitation in 1670.

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
TREAT FUND
Mar 7, 1931

The Oath to be Miniſtred to the Church-Wardens and Side-men.

YOU ſhall ſwear truly and faithfully to execute the Office of Church-warden within your Pariſh for the Year enſuing according to the beſt of your Skill and Knowledg; and alſo preſent ſuch things and perſons as to your Knowledg are Preſentable by the Laws Eccleſiaſtical of this Realm. So help you God.

ARTICLES
OF
ENQUIRY
About the

CHURCHES and *CHAPPELS*:

And all things thereto pertaining.

IS your Parish Church or Chappel kept in good and sufficient Repair? Are the Roofs, Walls, Pavements, and Windows well Repaired? And is the Church decently kept, as befitteth the House of God? Is your Church-Yard sufficiently fenced and maintained with Walls, Rails, or Pales, as hath bæn accustomed? Or by whose fault are they decayed? Hath any thing belonging to your Church been alienedd, embezelled, or sold?

2. Is there a Font of Stone for the Administration of Baptism, in the usual place appointed for it? And doth your Minister publickly Baptize in the same Font only? Is there a convenient Table, for the use of the Lords Supper? Is there a Carpet of Silk, or decent

Stuff to lay upon the Table in time of Divine Service; and a fair Linen Cloth to lay upon the same in the time of the Communion, according to the eighty second Canon: Have you a Communion Cup, with a Paten for the Bread: and is the Wine brought to the Communion Table in a clear standing Pot or Flagon of Pewter, or of purer Metal?

3. Have you a Reading Desk and Pulpit conveniently set up, and placed, for the use of publick Prayer, and Sermons?

4. Is there in your Church or Chappel the Common Prayer Book, of the largest Volume, according to the Act of Uniformity, 1662. The Bible in Folio, of the last Translation; the Book of Homilies; [the Book of Canons, and Constitutions Ecclesiastical, made in the Synod, 1603.] And a Table of Degrees, wherein Marriage is prohibited, publickly set up in your Church? And is there a decent Surplice for the Minister to wear at all times of his publick Ministration in the Church?

Bible

5. Have you a Register Book in Parchment, wherein to Register the Christenings, Marriages, and Burials in your Parish? Is there a Book, wherein to write down the Church-Wardens Accompts, and a strong Chest, with Locks and Keys, wherein to preserve your Church Furniture; and also for the Parishioners to put in their Alms for the relief of the Poor?

6. Is the House and Out-houses of your Minister in good and sufficient Repair? Doth he preserve the Gardens, Orchards, and Glebe belonging to him, without embezelling, changing, or any way damnifying the same?

Inqui-

Inquiries about the Clergy.

1. IS your Parſon or Vicar Ordained Prieſt, according to the Order of the Church of England? Or doth your Miniſter, or his Curate not being ſo Ordained Prieſt, conſecrate the holy Sacrament of the Lords Supper?

2. Is your Miniſter legally Inſtituted, and Inducted into his Benefice? Did he within two Months after his Induction, publickly in the Church upon ſome Sunday or holy-day, read the thirty nine Articles of the Church of England, and declare his aſſent thereunto? And alſo on ſome Lords-day read both Morning and Evening Prayer, and after his reading publickly declare his unfeigned Aſſent and Conſent to the uſe of the things contained in the Book of Common-Prayer? And within three Months after his Induction, on ſome Lords-day in your Pariſh Church read a Certificate under the hand and Seal of the Arch-Biſhop, or Biſhop of the Dioceſs, of his Subſcription to the Declaration required in the Act of Uniformity?

3. Doth your Miniſter read the full Service, according to the direction of the Common-Prayer Book on Sundays, and holy-days, at Morning and Evening Prayer; and in miniſtring the Sacraments, ſolemnizing Matrimony, burying the Dead, and Churching of Women, uſe all the Rites and the whole Forms of Prayers, according as they are preſcribed in the Common Prayer Book without omiſſion, alteration, or addition? Or doth he negligently, or in contempt of the Order of the Church, omit or add to the ſame?

4. Doth

4. Doth he usually read the Book of Cannos once every Year, and wear a Surplice in the time of his Ministration?

5. Doth he Preach a Sermon on every Sunday, or procure a Sermon then to be preached? Or else sometime read one of the Homilies which the Church hath appointed? And doth he diligently instruct the Youth of your Parish in the Church Catechism? And doth he endeavour to prepare them to be Confirmed by the Bishop?

6. Is your Minister constantly resident upon his Benefice? Or how long hath he been absent? And in case he be licensed to be absent, whether doth he cause his Cure to be supplied by a sufficient and licensed Preacher? And is your Curate conformable to the Ecclesiastical Laws?

7. Doth your Minister or Curate read the Service appointed for the Fifth of November, the Thirtieth of January, and the Twenty ninth of May? And doth he give notice upon the Sunday or the Holy-days, and Fasting-days, which will be the Week following, and observe the yearly peram-h bulation in Rogation Week?

8. Doth your Minister or Curate, celebrate the Lords Supper in the Church so often, that every Parishioner may receive the same at least thrice in the year? Doth he give warning of it, and read the Exhortation the Sunday before, that thereby the Parishioners may be stirr'd up to the worthy Receiving thereof? Doth he deliver severally the Bread and Wine to every Communicant kneeling? Doth he admit them

to

to the Communion, which be openly known to live in sin notorious, without repentance, or to have maliciously and openly contended with their Neighbours, before they be reconciled? And if he hath repelled any person from the Communion, doth he give account to the Ordinary within fourteen days after?

9. Doth he Baptise such Infants of his Parish, according to the Order of the Common Prayer, as upon warning given before, are brought upon Sundays or Holy-days to the Church? And upon lawful summons doth he Baptize Infants at home, in case of danger and necessity? Or through his fault doth the Infant die unbaptized?

10 Doth he neglect to visit the Sick at their houses when he is required? Doth he pray with them, and exhort them to Faith and Repentance, forgiveness of Injuries, and liberality to the Poor, and comfort them in their distress? And doth he give them that profess sorrow for their sins, the Holy Communion if they desire it?

11. Doth he marry any within the Degrees prohibited? Or without Licence, or Banes published three several Sundays, or Holy-days, in the Parishes where the Parties dwell? Doth he Marry in any other place than in the Church? Or not betwixt the lawful hours of eight and twelve? And doth he, if the Banes have been thrice asked, Marry any under the age of twenty one years, without their Parents or Guardians consent?

12. Hath he taken upon him to appoint any publick or private Fasts, Prophesyings, or Exercises not appointed by Authority, without Licence.

cense from the Bishop under his hand and Seal first obtained? Or doth he, or any other person, hold any Conventicles, or Meetings in private houses, or elsewhere within your Parish, for people of several Families to resort unto, under pretence of Preaching, or Praying?

13. Doth your Minister write and record in your Register Book, the Names of all persons Christned, Married, and Buried within your Parish, with the day and year of such Christning, Marriage, and Burial? And doth he with the Church-Wardens, take care duly to send in a Transcript of the Register every year to be kept in the Bishops Registry?

14. Is your Parson, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer a man of a sober, unblameable, and exemplary life? and spares not to present him or them that are not every way examples of godliness? If you have a Curate, is he allowed by the Bishop under his hand and Seal? If you have a Lecturer, is he licensed by the Bishop according to the Act of Uniformity? And doth he read the full Divine Service of Common-Prayer once a month at the least? And doth your Parson, Vicar, Curate, and Lecturer, (to your best understanding) preach sound Doctrine, tending to the Edification of the people, in knowledg and faith of Jesus Christ, and obedience to Gods Command? Or doth he Preach any heretical, seditious, or schismatical Doctrine, derogating from the Glory of God, and prejuditial to a pious life, or tending to the disturbance of the publick peace and unity of Church or State? If there be any such, present them.

Inquiries

Inquiries concerning the Parishioners.

1. IF there be any Persons that have offended by Fornication, Adultery, Incest, Drunkennels, or by common Swearing, Ribaldry, filthy Speaking, or any other uncleanness, and wickedness of life, Sorcerers, or resorters to Sorcerers, you shall present all and every such Offenders.

2. If there be any known to be hinderers of the Word of God to be read and sincerely Preached, or of the Execution of the Ecclesiastical Canons in force, any Fautors of any Usurped and Forein Power taken away by the Laws of this Realm, any Defenders of Popish Doctrine, they are to be presented.

3. Are there any Disturbers of Divine Service or Sermon, by walking, talking, or otherwise? Are there any that have stricken and quarrelled with any person in your Church or Churchyard? Do your Parishioners, in time of Divine Service and Sermon, behave themselves reverently, Men and Youth uncovering their heads? do all kneel, stand up, make Answers in time of Divine Service, as is appointed in the Rubricks of the Common Prayer Book? Or are they publick Depravers of the Common Prayer, and the Orders and Rites of the Church of England?

4. Do all your Parishioners resort diligently to Service and Sermons in the Church on Sundays? and other days appointed to be kept as Holydays? Do any commonly come but to some part, or near, or at the latter end of Divine Service, or to the Sermon only? Do they continue tip-

ling and drinking during the Service and Sermon, prophanely neglecting, or despising the Duties of Religion? Or do any separate from the publick Worship of God in their Parish Church, and frequent unlawful Conventicles?

5. Do any occupy themselves in their ordinary labour, or permit their Servants so to do? do they keep open their Shops, and sell Wares on Sundays, or otherwise prophane the said dayes, contrary to the Orders of the Church of England? Or do any Victuallers, Inn-keepers, Ale-house-keepers, or others permit any to lie tipling in their houses on those days?

6. Are there any in your Parish being above sixteen years of Age, and well instructed in Religion, who do not receive the Sacrament of the Lords Supper at least three times in the Year, of which Easter or thereabouts to be one? Or is there any who refuse it Kneeling, and from the hand of their own Minister, repairing for it to other Parishes, and Ministers abroad?

7. Are there any in your Parish who keep their Children unbaptized? Are there any who cause them to be Baptized privately, by any whom your Minister doth not allow, or after any other Form and Manner than is prescribed by the Liturgy? Or any that procure themselves to be Married privately, or after any other manner than the Church prescribes? Or any who being admonished refuse to send their Children and Servants to be Catechised? or any who refuse to be Catechised?

8. Are there any Women in your Parish, who after their delivery from Child-birth, have refused to make publick Thanksgiving to God, according

according as is prescribed in the Common Prayer Book?

9. Do your Parishioners bring their Dead to be buried according to the Order of the Church? Or have any been carried away to some other place to be buried, without the Ministers leave?

10. Are there any who refuse to pay their Easter Offerings, and Ecclesiastical Duties accustomed then to be paid? Or that refuse to pay the Rates assessed on them for the repair of Your Church or Chappel, or for the providing of Books, Utensils, or necessary Ornaments, or defraying such Charges as are by Law or Custom required?

11. Are there any in Your Parish Married within the Degrees prohibited by the Laws of God? Or any that being lawfully Married and not separated by course of Law, do not co-habit together? And do any with-hold the Stock of the Church, or any Goods, or Things given to Charitable Uses?

Inquiries concerning Church Officers, and other Persons.

1. DOth any keep a publick or private School in Your Parish who is not licensed by the Bishop of the Diocess? And doth he breed his Scholars religiously, and teach them the Church Catechism?

2. Have You a Parish Clerk of twenty Years of Age at the least? Is he of honest life and conversation? Is he chosen by Your Minister? and sufficient for Reading and Singing? Is he allowed by the Ordinary? Are his and the Sextons Wages paid without fraud, according

to

K
279

to the Custom of your Parish? or who with-holds them?

3. Have you any Physician, Chirurgion, or Midwife that practise without Licence?

4. Are the Church-Wardens of your Parish Yearly chosen, according to the Canon or Custom of the Parish? Have the late Church-Wardens given up a just Account, delivering up to the Parishioners the Money remaining in their hands, and other things of right belonging to your Church or Chappel? Are the Alms of the Church faithfully distributed to the use of the Poor? If any be faulty, present them.

5. If any Stranger come to preach in Your Church on any occasion, you must demand to see his Licence to Preach, and if he have none, you must inhibit him from Preaching; and if he has a Licence, cause him to subscribe his Name in Your Book, with the Name of the Bishop who licensed him.

6. Is there provided against every Communion a sufficient quantity of fine white Bread, and wholesome Wine, according to the number of the Communicants, by the Advice of your Minister? And is the Wine brought to the Communion Table in a sweet standing Pot or Flaggon?

7. Do you know, or have you heard that the Church-Wardens, or Side-men, which were your immediate Predecessors, have refused or neglected to do the duty of their Office during their time; and wherein are they faulty?

8. Do any persons trouble you for presenting any that offend in the Premises, and who they are?

FINIS.

*EC65.W8907.680a

THE HOUGHTON LIBRARY

7 March 1931